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Office of the Director  
Group 3600

In re Application of  
C. John Wherry et al.  
Serial No. 09/903,051  
Filed July 10, 2001  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
INVESTMENT INTEGRATION

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:  
: DECISION ON REQUEST  
: FOR WITHDRAWAL OF  
: ATTORNEY  
:

This is a decision on the request filed on March 14, 2002, under 37 CFR 1.36 and MPEP 402.06, requesting permission to withdraw as the attorney of record in the above-identified application.

The request is **NOT APPROVED**.

Under 37 CFR 1.36 an attorney may withdraw only upon application to and approval by the Commissioner. It should be noted that a withdrawal is effective when approved, not when filed. For approval of such a request the following conditions must be met:

- A) Each attorney of record must sign the notice of withdrawal, or the notice must contain a clear indication of one attorney signing on behalf of another, because the Office does not recognize law firms;
- B) There must be at least 30 days between approval of the withdrawal and the later of the expiration date of a time period for reply or the expiration date of the period which can be obtained by a petition and fee for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a);
- C) A proper reason for the withdrawal as enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40(b) or subsection (1)-(6) of 37 CFR 10.40(c) must be provided;
- D) The applicant or patent owner must have been notified of the withdrawal as provided for in 37 CFR 1.36.

The request to withdraw as attorney is not accepted in the above-identified application because the request lacks condition A) above. There is no indication that Barbara B. Courtney is signing on behalf of the other attorneys of record.

In summary, the request is **NOT APPROVED**.

Steven N. Meyers, Special Programs Examiner  
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SM/dw: 7/9/02